

REMARKS

The preceding claim amendments and the following remarks form a full and complete response to the Office Action mailed on October 31, 2008. In order to ensure a speedy allowance of the claims identified as directed to allowable subject matter by the Office Action, Applicants have cancelled claims 1-15 and 24-45 without prejudice or disclaimer. Additionally, Applicants have amended claim 16 for reasons unrelated to patentability without adding any new subject matter. Accordingly, claims 16-23 remain pending in the present application.

The Office Action objected to certain informalities present in claims 16-23. In particular, the Office Action asserted that the language "a direction of the illumination axis" resulted in a lack of clarity regarding whether the directions are the same or different. See Office Action at 2. In response, Applicants have amended claim 16 to read "the direction of the illumination axis" in order to clarify the claim language. Applicants submit that the claim amendment obviates the objection to claims 16-23 and, therefore, respectfully request withdrawal of the objection.

As the rejected claims have been cancelled without prejudice and claim 16 has been amended to obviate the objection, Applicants respectfully request that the Office allow claims 16-23 and pass the application to issue.

In the event that this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fee for such an extension together with additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account No. 02-2135.

In light of the foregoing, Applicants submit that all outstanding rejections and objections have been overcome, and the instant application is in condition for allowance. Thus, Applicants respectfully request early allowance of the instant application. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2135.

Respectfully submitted,

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